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Dr. Fisk then devotes three chapters to the important subject of trade-promoting institutions both public and private. Under this heading, he discusses our consular service, our Department of Commerce and Labor, with its various bureaus, and such quasi-public institutions as the Philadelphia Commercial Museum. Other suggestive chapters treat of commercial statistics, navigation, politics and public institutions for the promotion of navigation. The work is valuable for its clear English, its direct statements and its rounded treatment of a broad subject within the compass of a text-book of less than three hundred pages, including the excellent bibliographies appended to each chapter.

FRANK D. WATSON.

University of Pennsylvania.

Hadley, Arthur. *Standards of Public Morality.* Pp. 158. Price, \$1.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1907.

In this work, as in all his public utterances, President Hadley is eminently safe and sane. He has no patent medicine cure-all for the economic and political ills which retard the industrial and commercial progress of the country and threaten the permanency of democratic government. There is, he finds, a striking difference between the standards of public and private morality. In industrial and political life men are lauded and honored for doing the very things that are absolutely discredited in private life. Under these circumstances the usual process is to look to legislation for relief. The legislature is, however, under our system of government, a representation of special interests or of geographical sections each with its own wants. Thus legislation too often becomes a struggle for selfish ends rather than the intelligent consideration of measures for the common good. Democracy may thus become the instrumentality by which the majority tyrannizes over the minority, while constitutional government, on the other hand, may be used to support and protect the selfish interests of a class. The permanent interests of all classes are, however, much more nearly identical than their temporary ones, and an intelligent public opinion, appreciating this fact, will gradually establish and enforce standards of public morality that protect the weak from oppression and prevent the strong from abusing their power.

MAURICE H. ROBINSON.

University of Illinois.

Hunt, Wm., and Poole, R. L. (Editors). *The Political History of England*, in twelve volumes. Vol. V. From the Accession of Henry VII to the death of Henry VIII, 1485-1547. By H. A. L. Fisher. Pp. xx, 518. Price, \$2.60. New York: Longmans, Green & Co.

The general character of this series has been so fully commented on in earlier review articles in *THE ANNALS*, that it remains for the present review only to analyze and discuss this important and interesting volume, the

fifth. The author has a well-defined and distinctive field. The sixty-two years extending from the accession of Henry VII to the death of Henry VIII, from 1485 to 1547, saw the firm establishment of the "strong monarchy" of the Tudors, the adoption of the Reformation, so far as that movement consisted in the subordination of the ecclesiastical to the civil government, and the distinct separation of the English Church from the Church of Rome, the initiation of a great intellectual movement at the English universities, and much of the social revolution on the rural manors and in the artisan towns. The period is one in which the main lines of development are relatively clear. Differing views on the nature of the Reformation, the motives of its leaders and the degree of participation of the people, will of course always be taken, but its main course is not obscure. The foreign negotiations are less tortuous and more consistent than those of either the preceding or succeeding periods. Again, the materials for a study of the period are almost all printed or fully calendared, and to an Englishman at least, readily accessible. The appendix on "Authorities" is a remarkable bibliographical showing. Of no later period are the sources so fully published.

Mr. Fisher is, therefore, to be congratulated on the field that is given him to till by the editors of this series. And he has done the work well. He is familiar with both the primary and the secondary writing on the subjects he has to discuss. He has evidently dwelt on it until the whole history has taken a consistent shape as a unified whole in his mind. His narrative has a continuity and vigor from the beginning to the end that is seldom seen in modern scientific historical work. A certain gift of epigram or quaint characterization often relieves the more serious chapters and gives piquancy to what is already seriously valuable.

The author's panegyric upon Henry VIII would probably not have satisfied that monarch so well as it will most thoughtful students of his career. "Henry at least understood his own age. Gross, cruel, crafty, hypocritical, avaricious, he was, nevertheless, a great ruler of men. His grasp of affairs was firm and comprehensive; his devotion to public duty was, at least after Wolsey's fall, constant and sustained by a high and kingly sense of his own virtues and responsibilities. Before the judgment seat of his watchful, exacting, and imperious conscience, he at least was never found wanting. Despite violent oscillations of mood he saw the larger objects of policy with a certain steadfast intensity, the preservation of the dynasty, the unity of the state, the subjection of Scotland." But Henry always shows off to better advantage when he is generalized upon than when he is treated in detail. As in the case of several other sovereigns, the wonder is that so much that was petty, selfish, personal and narrow-minded should combine into a whole of which so good an estimate can be given.

The relatively narrow restriction of this series of volumes to the political element in history seems to have bound the author of this volume less closely than some of his predecessors. There is, for instance, a full discussion of the commercial policy of Henry VII, an admirable chapter on the "Dawn of the English Renaissance," and a thoughtful paragraph on the

disposition of the monastery lands. In fact, some matter concerning this last point is the most distinctly original contribution of the book toward our knowledge of the Reformation period. Largely as an inference from the studies of Alexander Savine, a Russian student at work in England, whose results are summarized in an appendix to this volume, it has been found that the confiscated monastery lands were less completely squandered than has been generally supposed.

Altogether it may be said that in this volume we have an adequate, impartial, and highly readable account of the period it covers. Our chief criticism of the work is rather negative than positive. We miss a deep perception of causes and effects, insight into a larger significance than appears on the surface, recognition of the part the unnamed populace played, as well as the named chief actors, a knowledge on the part of the writer, and a clarification for the sake of the reader, of the larger institutions of the time. But such a study of the history of the time was evidently not in the mind of the author, and we may well acknowledge the excellence and value of the history he has given us as he conceived it.

EDWARD P. CHEYNEY.

University of Pennsylvania.

Latané, J. H. *America as a World Power.* Pp. xvi, 350. Price, \$2.00. New York: Harper Brothers, 1907.

The extent to which political activities in the United States have become world activities is hardly to be appreciated until their history is brought together in such a volume as this. Starting with Cuban intervention and ending with the second Hague Conference, the author presents a brilliant summary of the last decade of our foreign policy.

The task before an historian who undertakes to discuss events almost contemporary is a difficult one. The voluminous character of the material, the numerous branches of national policy, and the difficulty of putting the different factors in their proper perspective call for an ability for synthesis possessed by but few. Professor Latané has carried out the work with skill. That some of the pages savor of the magazine and that occasional overlappings occur is to be expected and is perhaps unavoidable.

The first third of the book deals with the Spanish War and its immediate results. Especially well done are the discussions of the peace negotiations, the vacillation of the administration as to the policy to be followed in the Philippines and the relations with the insurgents previous to the conclusion of the treaty. The second third takes up the consequences of the war as shown in our relations with Cuba, the constitutional questions raised by the dependencies and our new position in the Orient. The last third takes as its chief subjects the international questions involved in the Alaskan boundary dispute, the Panama Canal, the Hague Conference and the present status of the Monroe Doctrine. The latter factor, "the cardinal principle of American foreign policy," runs at the back of almost all of the discussions. The author maintains that the United States is guilty of no